

# CITY OF RIPON



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE

**YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER**

**1943**



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CITY OF RIPON.

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MAYOR DURING THE YEAR 1943 :

ALDERMAN A. NETTLETON, J.P.

CHAIRMAN OF HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE :

COUNCILLOR L. M. KING.

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**PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.**

*Medical Officer of Health :*

C. H. GREENWOOD, F.R.C.S., M.B., B.Ch.

(Part time).

*Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Meat and other  
Foods :*

W. L. INGHAM, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

*Clerk :*

R. KEY (called for Service in R.A.F., 10/7/41).

*Temporary Clerk :*

P. JOHNSON (15/4/41 to 31/10/43).

Town Hall,  
Ripon,  
August, 1944.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and  
Councillors of the City of Ripon.

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

We have the honour to present to you our report upon the health and sanitary conditions of the City during the year 1943.

The information contained in the Report is divided into the following sections :—

	<i>Page</i>
A. STATISTICS.	3
B. GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES.	6
C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.	7
D. HOUSING.	15
E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.	18
F. INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.	23
G. MISCELLANEOUS.	25

A detailed index is provided at the end of the Report.

We would again remark that more interest may be gained in the reading of the Report if reference is made to the comparisons with previous years. Annual figures in a small municipality can give rather a distorted view of the situation, but taken in comparison with other years, or as an average, over a period a much more accurate and interesting picture is obtained.

The principal difficulty experienced during the year was in the realm of housing. There is such a shortage of accommodation in the City that overcrowding and bad living conditions are inevitable. The most unsatisfactory premises are being used for human habitation, but in the absence of better accommodation, little can be done to alleviate the position. The only answer to this problem is for the Corporation to build or otherwise provide more houses, and this, of course, depends on the attitude and good will of the Government.

We are, Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servants,

C. H. GREENWOOD,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

W. L. INGHAM,  
*Sanitary Inspector*

## SECTION A.

## STATISTICS.

Area .. .. .	1,812 acres.
Population (1931 Census) .. ..	8,591.
do (R.G. Estimate 1943) .. ..	9,368.
Number of inhabited houses .. ..	2,525.
Rateable value .. .. .	£59,552.
Product of Id. Rate .. .. .	£244.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

	Tot.	M.	F.	Ripon 1943	Ripon 10 yrs. av.	England & Wales 1943
BIRTHS :—174						
Legitimate	154	83	71			
Illegitimate	20	8	12			
Totals	174	91	83			
					150 births	
Birth rate per 1,000 population .. ..				18.57	16.5	16.5
STILLBIRTHS :—	8	4	4			
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births .. ..				43.95	43.37	
DEATHS :—	129	54	75		125 deaths	—
Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population .. ..				13.77	12.39	12.1
MATERNAL MORTALITY :—						
Puerperal sepsis				} No deaths		
Other puerperal causes						
Maternal death rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births .. ..				0.00	3.23	0.39
INFANTILE MORTALITY :—						
(Deaths under one year of age)						
Legitimate	6	4	2			
Illegitimate	1	-	1			
Totals	7	4	3			
All infants per 1,000 live births .. ..				40.23	46.58	49.00
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births .. ..				38.96		
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births .. ..				50.00		
DEATHS FROM CERTAIN CAUSES :—						
Cancer (all ages) .. ..						6
Measles (all ages) .. ..						0
Whooping Cough (all ages) .. ..						0
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) .. ..						0



Birth Rates, Civilian Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality, etc.  
for year 1943.

	RIPON	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs & Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns 25,000 to 50,000 population)
Rates per 1,000 population.				
Births : Live	18.57	16.5	18.6	19.4
Still	.86	0.51	0.63	0.61
Deaths :				
All causes	13.77	12.1	14.2	12.7
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.03
Diphtheria	0.00	0.03	0.04	0.04
Influenza	0.64	0.37	0.36	0.37
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Measles	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.02

Rates per 1,000 Live Births.				
Deaths under 1 year of age	40.23	49.00	58.00	46.00
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years of age)	Nil	5.3	7.9	4.4

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	M	F
Tuberculosis of resp. system .. .. .	4	2
Other forms of tuberculosis .. .. .	1	1
Influenza .. .. .		6
Cancer (all sites) .. .. .	6	5
Diabetes .. .. .		1
Cerebral haemorrhage .. .. .	7	11
Heart disease .. .. .	13	22
Other circulatory diseases .. .. .	2	1
Bronchitis .. .. .	5	6
Pneumonia .. .. .	2	1
Other respiratory diseases .. .. .		1
Digestive diseases .. .. .	1	2
Nephritis .. .. .	3	1
Premature birth .. .. .	3	1
Congenital malformation, etc. .. .. .		1
Road traffic .. .. .	2	1
Other violent causes .. .. .	1	3
All other causes .. .. .	4	9
Totals ..	54	75

## DEATHS CLASSIFIED IN AOE GROUPS.

Ages.									
Under 1 year		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
1 and under	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
3	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
5	15	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
15	25	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
25	45	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
45	55	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
55	65	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25
65	75	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	30
75	85	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	35
85	90	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
90	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
95 and over	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
									129

## RECORD OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR PAST 20 YEARS.

Year	Popu- lation	No. of births	Birth Rate	Infant' Mort' Rate	Mat'l Mort' Rate	Still- birth Rate	No. of deaths	Death Rate a
1924	8208	144	17.54	76.40			108	13.15
1925	8131	142	17.46	63.38			111	12.42
1926	8145	142	17.43	21.12			97	11.90
1927	8359	133	17.34	68.96			129	15.43
1928	8445	133	15.75	45.11			97	10.30
1929	8407	115	13.67	86.95			121	15.58
1930	8407	127	15.10	78.74			102	11.91
1931	8495	133	15.60	60.10	13.70	34.93	123	14.47
1932	8418	143	15.60	20.90	6.05	38.22	128	15.20
1933	8453	119	14.07	75.63	7.30	58.40	134	15.85
1934	8438	130	15.40	23.07	0.00	51.09	114	11.38a
1935	8452	137	16.10	43.79	6.85	61.64	102	10.13
1936	8433	124	14.70	56.45	7.75	38.76	131	13.04
1937	8542	136	15.90	58.80	0.00	55.50	137	13.47
1938	8474	140	16.52	57.14	6.99	20.98	123	12.18
1939	9094	136	16.11	36.76	0.00	48.95	135	12.46
1940	9914	161	16.24	54.54	0.00	48.48	141	13.79
1941	9877	186	18.23	66.66	5.23	26.17	123	12.06
1942	9662	176	18.21	28.40	5.46	38.25	113	11.69
1943	9368	174	18.57	40.23	0.00	43.95	129	13.77

a Crude death rate up to 1933. Adjusted death rate from 1934.

LIST OF MARRIAGES IN RIPON DURING THE LAST  
FIVE YEARS.

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
Ripon Cathedral	59	53	59	48	43
Holy Trinity Church	15	13	13	6	7
St. Wilfred's R.C. Church	9	15	3	5	7
Methodist Church, (Coltsgate Hill)	3	5	4	2	0
Methodist Church (Allhallowgate)	2	3	1	1	0
Zion Chapel	1	0	4	2	2
Congregational Chapel	1	0	0	1	0
Register Office	35	45	39	28	34
Totals	125	134	123	93	93

**SECTION B.**

**GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES.**

LABORATORY FACILITIES :

- (a) Pathological Examinations :
  - (i) West Riding County Council Laboratory.
  - (ii) Dr. S. Miller, Clinical Laboratory, Harrogate.
- (b) Water and Milk examinations :
  - (i) West Riding County Council Laboratory.
  - (ii) Messrs. Richardson & Jaffe, Bradford.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES :

- (a) Infectious cases :
 

Motor Ambulance owned by Joint Infectious Diseases Hospital Committee.
- (b) Non-Infectious cases :
 

Motor Ambulance owned and manned by the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

These facilities are sufficient for the district.



## NURSING IN THE HOME.

District nursing is provided by the Ripon Nursing and Maternity Institution. Considerable difficulty has been experienced in obtaining private nurses for serious cases of illness nursed at home. The services of civil defence nurses on the staff of the First Aid Post have been of great assistance.

## CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

### (a) CHILD WELFARE CENTRE :

This is administered by the West Riding County Council, and is under the charge of the School Medical Officer and a whole time nurse who also acts as School Nurse. A voluntary committee of ladies gives assistance at the weekly meetings of the Centre.

### (b) TUBERCULOSIS CLINIC :

This, again, is the responsibility of the West Riding County Council, The County Tuberculosis Officer holds sessions twice per month at the Clinic, 3, College Road.

### (c) VENEREAL DISEASES CLINICS :

Arrangements are in force whereby any cases can be given treatment at the General Infirmary, Leeds, or the Harrogate and District Hospital. Travelling expenses are paid when necessary.

## SECTION C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

### WATER SAMPLES :

The following lists show the results of the samples of water taken during the year and submitted for bacteriological, chemical or plumbo-solvency examination.

#### BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER SAMPLES.

No.	Taken from	Presumptive B. Coli per 100 m.l. of water	Comments
1	Lumley Moor Waterworks (after sand filtration)	Nil	Satisfactory
2	Lumley Moor Waterworks (after sand and mechanical filtration)	2	do.
3	Lumley Moor Waterworks (after added lime)	1	do.
4	Whitefields service reservoir	Nil	do
5	do	Nil	do.
6	Birkby Nab service reservoir	Nil.	do.
7	Harper Barracks	Nil.	do.
8	Ure Bank Camp	Nil.	do.

CHEMICAL WATER SAMPLES.

No.	Taken from	Total Solids	Chlorine	Nitrites and Nitrates	Free Amm.	Albm 'n'd Amm.	Metals	Total hardness	pH	Comments
1	Lumley Moor Waterworks	8.0	.8	Nil	.0035	.007	Nil	1.5	6.2	Fairly satisfactory
2	do. (after added lime)	9.0	.8	Nil	.0021	.0014	Nil	2.0	6.2	do
3	Ure Bank Camp	7.0	.9	Nil	.0007	.0014		3.0	7.6	Satisfactory
4	Birkby Nab Service Reservoir	7.0	.9	Nil	.0007	.0014		3.5	7.0	do
5	Whitefields Service Reservoir	7.0	.9	Nil	.0007	.0014		3.5	9.2	do

## SAMPLES FOR PLUMBO SOLVENCY:—

Contact with lead pipe	Length of pipe	PH Value	Lead Content
All night	40 ft.	8.0	Nil
half-hour	40 ft.	7.2	Nil

The quantity and quality of the water supplied during the year was satisfactory.

					Gallons
Water passed through	sand filters	..	..	..	81,672,000
"	"	"	"	"	100,324,000
Total consumption of water	..	..	..	..	181,996,000
An average daily consumption of	..	..	..	..	498,000

## RAINFALL.

Month.	Lumley Moor.	The Grove, Ripon.
January	4.53	} 4.78
February	1.66	
March	.94	
April	1.62	
May	2.74	
June	2.12	2.75
July	1.16	1.02
August	3.88	2.34
September	4.44	2.93
October	1.52	1.59
November	2.52	2.10
December	1.81	1.48
Totals	28.94	23.14

We are indebted to Mr. H. Killick for the figures of rainfall in the City.

It may not be out of place here to comment on the lack of meteorological data in the City. A rain gauge and a sunshine recorder are now the minimum requirements in a progressive municipality.

It will be of interest to compare the rainfall at Lumley Moor and in the City during the last 10 years.

Year	Lumley Moor	Ripon
1934	26.51	27.17
1935	39.04	32.55
1936	37.84	34.84
1937	32.13	31.10
1938	37.35	31.14
1939	34.07	29.35
1940	30.71	23.27
1941	31.07	25.92
1942	29.57	22.55
1943	28.94	23.14
Totals	27.94	23.14

The respective ordnance datum levels of the above rainfall recording gauges are as follows :—

Lumley Moor	..	..	600 ft. above sea level.
Ripon	..	..	100 ft. above sea level.

#### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No extentions have been effected during 1943.

The new sewer and pumping station from Ure Bank are operating successfully, and are a great improvement on the previous obsolete arrangement.

It will be necessary in the years after the war to renew the very old sewers which are now serving the older portions of the City. Some of these sewers are known to be of very antiquated type and were never intended for either the volume or type of sewage with which they now have to deal.

#### RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Generally, this work is under the control of the West Riding Rivers Board and no action has been required on the part of the local authority.

#### SANITARY CONVENIENCES.

The approximate numbers of houses in the City, at the end of 1943 using different types of conveniences, are as follows :—

Using water closets	..	..	2,488
Waste water closets	..	..	26
Pail closets	..	..	3
Privies	..	..	3
Ashpits in use	..	..	4

#### REFUSE REMOVAL.

Amount of refuse collected	..	..	..	..	3,002 tons
Amount per 1,000 population	..	..	..	..	320.4 tons
Average weight per day per 1,000 population	..	..	..	..	.88 tons
Average weight per house per annum	..	..	..	..	23.7 cwts.
Total cost, collection	..	..	..	..	£1,281
„ „ disposal	..	..	..	..	£497
Net cost of collection per ton	..	..	..	..	8/6
„ „ disposal per ton	..	..	..	..	3/4
Total cost of collection and disposal per ton	..	..	..	..	11/10
Net cost per 1,000 population	..	..	..	..	£190
Net cost per house per annum	..	..	..	..	14/1

Comparison of costs between motor and horse-drawn vehicle (from point of collection to delivery at the tip) :—

	Cart	Motor
Working arrangements	Horse and Cart and two men	Motor vehicle and 3 men
Number of loads removed	1228	1152
Weight of refuse removed	967 tons	2035 tons
Cost of removal	£498	£767
Cost per ton	10/3	7/10



Points to comment on regarding the removal of household refuse are as follows :—

- (1) It will be observed from the above figures that the collection of refuse by a horse-drawn vehicle is not as economical as using a mechanical vehicle. The reason for this is due to the time spent by the horse-drawn vehicle travelling to and from the tip and is equivalent to approximately 50% working time.
- (2) The increase in cost of the refuse collection service over the last six years is shown by the following figures. The rising cost is principally due to increased wages.
- (3) Even taking into consideration these higher costs, the weekly collection of refuse at a cost of rather less than 3½d. per house per week is still an inexpensive essential service.

Year	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
Total cost of collection and disposal	£1166	£1380	£1488	£1600	£1748	£1778
Cost per ton	7/4	7/11	8/1	9/6	11/2	11/10
Cost per house per week	2d.	2½d.	2½d.	3d.	3d.	3½d.

#### SALVAGE OF MATERIALS.

During the year ended March 31st, 1944, the following materials have been salvaged and returned to industry for re-use :—

Item	Weight				Value		
	T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Paper .. .. .	73	8	-	-	570	9	10
Textiles .. .. .	1	12	-	-	37	5	3
Bones .. .. .	6	19	3	20	33	6	1
Food waste .. .. .	10	18	-	-	13	15	0
Cullet .. .. .	3	-	-	-	5	5	0
Jars .. .. .	308	doz.			6	15	4
Carpet .. .. .	6				1	4	0
Sacking .. .. .	19	2			2	18	6
Heavy iron .. .. .	5	7	-	-	16	8	9
Light iron .. .. .	11	12	1	-	14	14	10
Household tins .. .. .	38	6	2	-	64	19	5
Haulage (re-charge) .. .. .					2	8	0
Aluminium .. .. .			3	7	2	5	1
Lead .. .. .			3	6		13	3
Brass .. .. .		1	2	14	1	15	9
Copper .. .. .				17		6	0
Pewter .. .. .				10		12	6
Zinc and spelter .. .. .			1	-		2	0
Rubber .. .. .	2	9	-	-	6	2	6
Felt hats .. .. .					4	0	0
Totals .. .. .	155	1	3	18	785	7	1
Cost .. .. .					433	0	0
Profit .. .. .					£352	7	1

These figures show a reduction on previous years particularly in paper salvage, and this is due to the salvage drives of previous years having denuded households of the accumulations of books and papers of peacetime size and quantity.



Figures for previous years have been as follows :—

	1940-1	1941-2	1942-3
Weight ..	191 tons	198 tons	238 tons
Value ..	£728	£834	£1137
Profit	£382	£378	£554

Total profit to 31st March, 1944 (approx.) — £1,666.

During the two weeks 21st August, to 4th September, 1943, the Yorkshire Salvage Drive was held with the object of obtaining books for (a) the Services, (b) blitzed libraries, (c) children and (d) re-pulping. Ripon's target in this effort was originally 15,000 books, but this was subsequently increased during the progress of the Drive to 25,000. The final result was as follows :—

Books allocated for the Services	..	..	5,037
„ „ „ Libraries	..	..	362
„ „ „ Children	..	..	454
„ „ „ Re-pulping	..	..	35,165
Total ..			41,018

This was equivalent to 4.2 books per head of the population, and gave Ripon the highest place amongst County and Municipal Boroughs in Yorkshire. This excellent result was due to the united efforts of many persons and organizations, principally the schools and members of the W.V.S.

### SANITARY INSPECTIONS.

The summary of inspections during the year is as follows :—

HOUSES (including re-inspections) :

Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	181
Corporation houses inspected	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	72
Overcrowding	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	30
Infectious diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	36
Verminous	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	172

GENERAL :

Common lodging house	..	..	..	..	..	..	28
Slaughter houses (including meat inspection)	..	..	..	..	..	..	177
Tents, vans and sheds	..	..	..	..	..	..	46
Rat destruction	..	..	..	..	..	..	172
Petroleum storage	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Factories (P. and N.P.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	31
Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	32
Schools	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
City mortuary	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Keeping of animals	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Offensive accumulations	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	..	131

## MILK, ETC. :

COWSHEDS .. .. .	14
Dairies and milkshops .. .. .	11
Samples of milk .. .. .	13

## FOOD :

Food shops .. .. .	19
Food stalls .. .. .	23
Bakehouses .. .. .	9

## WATER :

Samples taken .. .. .	15
Complaints received .. .. .	92
Interviews granted (public health and housing) .. .. .	938

SANITARY WORK CARRIED OUT AS A RESULT OF  
SERVICE OF NOTICES.

## DWELLING HOUSES :

Roofs repaired .. .. .	10
Plasterwork repaired .. .. .	17
Windows repaired .. .. .	4
Sashcords renewed .. .. .	9
Stairs repaired .. .. .	3
Firegrates repaired .. .. .	7
Chimney stacks repaired and pots renewed .. .. .	5
New sinks provided .. .. .	2
Sink waste pipes repaired or renewed .. .. .	11
Eaves gutters and fallpipes repaired or renewed .. .. .	12
Water pipes repaired .. .. .	3
Dirty houses cleansed .. .. .	4
Miscellaneous .. .. .	16
Nuisances remedied .. .. .	
New dust bins provided .. .. .	36

## DRAINAGE :

Inspection covers renewed .. .. .	2
Drains cleansed .. .. .	14
„ repaired .. .. .	6

## WATER CLOSETS :

Basins renewed .. .. .	3
Cisterns repaired .. .. .	6
Structures repaired .. .. .	8

## SHOPS.

Number of inspections .. .. .	32
Contraventions of Shops Acts .. .. .	6

The contraventions of the Shops Acts were in no case of a serious character, and all were corrected on the attention of the proprietor being called to them.

## TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

Inspections relative to tents, vans and sheds .. .. .	46
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Most of these inspections were in connection with caravans occupied by fairground personnel who occupied a site without sufficient sanitary accommodation. This matter was still in hand at the end of 1943.

Other visits were principally in connection with itinerant caravan dwellers of the semi-gypsy type of person who invariably choose the most unsatisfactory sites for their caravans and create nuisance and annoyance to nearby residents.

There are no sites licensed in Ripon for caravan sites in accordance with the provisions of the Public Health Act.

#### SMOKE ABATEMENT.

During the year no complaint has been received of excessive emission of smoke, and four official observations of a half hour each showed no contravention of the byelaws.

#### SWIMMING BATHS.

One sample of water from the Spa swimming bath was taken and submitted for bacteriological analysis. The result was as follows :—

Presumptive B. Coli in 100 m.l. of water	..	none
pH value	..	7.2
Free chlorine in 1 million parts of water	..	none

The sample was taken immediately after a large number of swimmers had vacated the water, and in these circumstances can be considered very satisfactory.

The Ministry of Health standard is 0.2—0.5 parts free chlorine in 1 million parts of water, and the Baths Manager was advised to slightly increase the dosage of chlorine when a large number of swimmers was anticipated.

#### ERADICATION OF BUG.

Bug infested houses have been found as follows :—

Corporation houses	..	..	..	..	2
Other houses	..	..	..	..	2
Other premises	..	..	..	..	1

The method adopted to clear infested premises is as follows :—

- (1) Spraying with Vermicene insecticide.
- (2) Use of Fumoid fumigators.

Instructions are given to occupiers as to thorough cleansing of rooms, bedsteads, etc.

#### SCHOOLS.

The sanitary condition of the Elementary Schools has generally been satisfactory. Eight visits have been paid.

#### COMMON LODGING HOUSE.

The Common lodging house has been very well conducted during the year, and the provisions of the byelaws have been fairly well complied with. 28 inspections have been made.

#### RAT DESTRUCTION.

During 1943, the Ministry of Food inaugurated a national campaign against rats owing to a considerable increase in the rat population and the consequent damage to foodstuffs. In Ripon, a survey of all rat infested properties was made and details forwarded to the Ministry. Energetic action was taken in all cases of known infestations, those on agricultural properties being dealt with by the War Agricultural Executive Committee, and those on domestic properties by the Corporation.



The following is a statement of the action taken :—

Number of complaints of infestations received ..	50
Number of infestations cleared :—	
(a) by bait provided to occupiers of property ..	11
(b) by Corporation workmen .. .. .	22
Number of infestations report to West Riding W.A.C. ..	7
" " " " Ministry of Food ..	1
Infestations being dealt with 31st Dec., 1943 ..	9
Number of visits to rat infested properties .. ..	172

Three principal methods of destruction are used :—

- (1) Zinc phosphide mixed with bread mash.
- (2) Charlton's rat bait, which is a paste to be spread on pieces of bread, etc.
- (3) Gassing with Cyanogas—a powder which is blown into rat burrows and, in contact with moisture, gives off a lethal gas.

There are no known rat infested sewers in Ripon.

### OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The only offensive trades now established in Ripon and coming within the provisions of the Public Health Act, are four rag and bone dealers.

The business of fellmongering has been discontinued.

### SECTION D.

### HOUSING.

*New houses :—*

None have been erected during the year.

#### 1. *Inspection of dwelling houses :—*

(a) Number of houses inspected for housing defects (under P.H. or H. Acts) .. .. .	105
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .. .. .	181
(c) Number found not in all respects fit for human habitation ..	105

#### 2. *Repairs carried out by informal action :—*

(a) Number of dwelling houses rendered fit .. .. .	38
--	----

#### 3. *Proceedings under Public Health Act :—*

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .. .. .	4
---	---

#### 4. *Overcrowding :*

(a) Number of dwelling houses known to be overcrowde ..	42
(b) Approximate number of persons involved .. .. .	250

#### 5. *Five-year programme—Clearance areas :—*

Owing to the war it has not been possible to take any action which materially affects the programme of slum clearance. The position is as follows :—

(a) Number of houses condemned but occupants not rehoused ..	79
(b) Approximate number of persons involved .. .. .	275
(c) Number of condemned houses re-occupied .. .. .	17

The principal difficulty experienced during the year was in the shortage of housing accommodation.

Various houses in the City are occupied by evacuees and refugees, and although these will become available in due course, the advantage will be offset by the greater number of houses required by married men returning from the Forces.

Even now the overcrowding position is getting worse by reason of men being discharged from the Forces and being compelled, with their families, to share a house with someone else. It is fully expected that these circumstances will become progressively worse until more houses are able to be provided.

### POST WAR HOUSING.

The following report, which was presented to the Health and Housing Committee on July 14th, 1943, summarises the post war housing problem of the City :—

#### *“Ministerial Policy.*

(1) On the 4th March, 1943, the Ministry of Health issued Circular No. 2778, which dealt with the Post War Programme for the Housing of the Working Classes. The Circular stated that although the Minister can hold out no hope for a substantial housing programme at the present time, he is anxious that Local Authorities should now begin to formulate plans so as to be in a position to make a quick start after the War.

(2) In making the review, local authorities are requested to take note of (a) outstanding programmes for slum clearance and (b) the abatement of overcrowding.

#### *Previous Housing Activities in Ripon.*

(3) Since 1920 the Corporation has built or purchased 443 houses at an approximate cost of £170,000. Taking the average persons per house at 4, this gives a total of nearly 1,800 persons or 21% of the City population provided with houses infinitely more in accord with modern requirements than the dark, dismal, damp and generally squalid dwellings that have, in many cases, been their lot.

(4) Also since 1920 approximately 220 houses have been demolished or closed for human habitation.

#### *The Rising Standard of Housing Accommodation.*

(5) It is an accepted fact that the standard of working class houses is constantly rising, and the rows of property built 40 or more years ago are not now required by the rising generation who, generally speaking, appreciate the facilities which are provided in more recently built houses, e.g. bathroom, hot water, more air space and a garden. These are not now luxuries but are essential advantages which ought to be enjoyed by every inhabitant. This means that a considerable number of houses which, even 10 or 15 years ago, might just have escaped inclusion in demolition orders will certainly be so included in any post war slum clearance programme.

(6) The constantly increasing number of applications for Corporation houses—even in peacetime—testifies to the popularity of the modern type of house, and proves the opinion expressed in paragraph (5)

#### *New Houses required :—*

(7) In considering the number of new houses required account must be taken of :—

- (a) Overcrowding in the City.
- (b) Slum clearance.
- (c) General housing development.

(8) Our last available figures show that 42 houses in the City are overcrowded. This figure is considerably increased at the present



time, but it will be safe to retain the figure of 42. Of these approximately half are in areas that will be the subject of clearance orders. Therefore, we have a net figure of 21 houses required to abate overcrowding. It must be remembered that the Corporation has not built any houses to alleviate overcrowding.

(9) We have 8 clearance areas confirmed by the Minister of Health comprising about 80 houses from which the occupants have not yet been removed. We also have approximately 96 houses which are in the original 5-year programme but regarding which no action has been taken.

(10) The rising standard of housing accommodation raises the query as to the number of houses which will, for the first time, be included in a programme of clearance. It will be appreciated that no actual figures can be given weither for this or for overcroding without the making of a complete survey which the Ministry of Health, at this juncture, does not require. An estimate can be made, and I would suggest a further 200 houses.

(11) *Applications for Corporation houses are as follows :—*

Bungalows—13, two bedroom type—74, three bedroom type—62. A total of 149. It may be argued that the majority of these persons houses would be available for another family, and therefore this figure should cancel itself out. Against this, I would say that Ripon is growing. Certain industries are expanding and employing more workpeople. It is also probable that one of the camps will become a permanent one with the consequent influx of residents' and workers' families. I would therefore put the provision of houses under this heading at 120.

(12) *We can now summarise the number of houses required as follows :—*

(a)	To alleviate overcrowding .. ..	21
(b)	Slum-clearance (existing programme)	176
	ditto (future do. )	200
(c)	General housing development ..	120
		<hr/>
		517
		<hr/>

Say 500 houses.

(13) I do not at the moment consider it necessary to go into details of sizes of houses required, but we certainly need a larger proportion of 4-bedroom type than has previously been provided.

*Where are we going to build?*

(14) This problem is a thorny one. The question of sites has agitated the Corporation, in fact the whole City, for many years. The Ministry of Health is, however, concerned at the moment with those sites which are immediately available for building should circumstances render the erection of houses possible either during or immediately after the war.

(15) The only virgin site we have available is Gallows Hill which has an available building acreage of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  and will accommodate approximately 80 houses. Negotiations are at present proceeding for the completion of purchase of one field. Essential services adjoin the site.

(16) Proposals are for the time being to be confined to a one-year's building programme, and it is estimated that 30 houses could reasonably be erected as a commencement. These can be built at Gallows Hill on land already in the ownership of the Corporation.

(17) Approximately 20 houses can be erected on cleared Compulsory Purchase Order sites excluding Finkle Street area which could be better utilised for the erection of public buildings. In any case, the persons occupying houses on these sites must be re-housed before any demolition and re-building can be carried out.

(18) It will be obvious that new sites are still required for the majority of the houses, but this question and the policy to be decided by the Corporation for a long-term housing programme are not discussed in this report.

(19) Of the 500 houses required we have sites for 106 houses as follows :—

Gallows Hill	..	..	86
C.P.O. Sites	..	..	20
			<hr/> 106 <hr/>

Thus sites are required for 394 houses which, at a density of 12, need 33 acres plus playing fields, etc.

*Contact with Ministry of Health.*

(20) All the matters referred to in this report have been discussed with representatives of the Ministry of Health at an informal meeting on the 19th February, 1943. The Ministry representatives were emphatically of the opinion that Gallows Hill is a suitable site for the commencement of a building programme.

W. L. INGHAM,  
*Sanitary Inspector.*

## SECTION E.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### MILK.

Samples of milk for cleanliness have been taken with the following results :—

Number of Bacteria per m.l.	Bacillus Coliform :				Present in 1/1000
	1	Absent in (m.l.)		1/1000	
		1/10	1/100		
0—30,000					
30,000—200,000			3	2	
200,000—500,000			3		
500,000—1 million					

Vendors of the five samples outside the heavy line were cautioned, and samples taken subsequently indicated improvement.



Samples have also been submitted for testing by the Methylene blue reductase test, and the results of these are as follows :—

Type of milk.	Decolourised in :	Result.
Tuberculin tested	5 hrs.	Excellent
do	5½ hrs.	do
Pasteurised	4½ hrs.	Good
Ordinary	4½ hrs.	Satisfactory
do	3 hrs.	Fair

In the case of one producer-retailer, the Corporation took action under Sec. 22 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1936, and cancelled the registration of the person as a retail purveyor of milk. This action was taken as the public health was likely to be endangered by the retailer's acts or default in relation to the quality, storage and distribution of milk by reason of non-compliance with the provision of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, namely, articles 6 (3), 14 (1), 14 (3), 15, 21 (3), 22 (1), 23 (2), 23 (3) and 23 (4).

For anyone concerned in the handling in milk it is necessary to know the principles of sterilisation in order to avoid cans and other utensils becoming (as they so often are) a source of contamination to the milk. Efficient sterilisation of all utensils by the producer, the retailer and the housewife would, in a surprisingly large number of cases, avoid the 'souring' of milk which is so prevalent each summer.

This comment is induced by the action of the retailer quoted above, who 'sterilised' cans by hot water, then rinsing in cold water and later dusting them out with a cloth !

#### RETAIL PURVEYORS OF MILK.

Number on Register Jan. 1st	..	..	..	18
„ registered during year	..	..	..	1
„ discontinued during year	..	..	..	2
„ on Register Dec. 31st	..	..	..	17

#### COWSHEDS.

Number of cowsheds registered Jan. 1st	..	..	9
„ „ discontinued	..	..	4
„ „ registered Dec. 31st	..	..	5
„ cowkeepers registered Jan. 1st	..	..	6
„ „ discontinued	..	..	2
„ „ registered Dec. 31st	..	..	4

#### MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

Number of licences to sell T.T. milk	..	..	3
„ „ „ Pasteurized milk	..	..	1
„ „ „ Accredited milk	..	..	1

No designated milk is produced or bottled within the City.

#### FUTURE RESPONSIBILITY FOR MILK PRODUCTION.

It is now well known that the Government propose taking over the whole of the duties of Local Authorities so far as the supervision of milk production is concerned. This has produced much heart-burning amongst local authorities generally, their officers and other interested parties. Speaking as officers, we do not mind who is responsible for the work so long as improvement is effected in the way much of the milk is produced. Existing legislation has not proved at all satisfactory in many ways, but whether the new legislation and administration proposed will satisfy all parties interested and result in a greatly improved quality of milk supply is a very debateable matter. Certainly, much more could have been done by local authorities if the powers given them had been strengthened,

## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES :

Number of registered slaughterhouses	..	5
Number of licensed slaughterhouses	..	5

Although it has been generally agreed throughout the country that no action would be taken against private slaughterhouses merely because of their disuse during the war, it is to be hoped that some arrangement will be made whereby the centralised slaughtering of animals will continue after the war as the advantages of such a method have been amply demonstrated during the past few years.

There are several privately owned slaughterhouses in Ripon in congested and extremely unsuitable positions, and it would be a very retrograde step to allow them to be used as slaughterhouses in the future.

Whether the Ministry of Food will continue, when conditions become normal, is still a debateable point, but alternatively it would still be possible for the local authority to take over the slaughterhouse as a central abattoir. The possibilities of such a scheme should certainly be kept in mind.

## SLAUGHTERING AND CONDEMNATIONS :

Number killed and inspected	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Total
	1210	1328	5974	221	8733
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT Tuberculosis:					
Whole carcasses cond'd	15	6	42	5	68
Parts of carc. cond'd	514	12	401	22	949
Percentage affected	43.7	1.4	7.4	12.2	11.6
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY :					
Whole carcasses cond'd	38	7	—	2	47
Parts of carcasses or organs cond'd	164	1	—	12	177
Percentage affected	16.7	0.6	—	6.3	2.6

Total weight of meat condemned .. 18 t. 11 c. 12 lbs.

A detailed analysis of the causes of condemnations for the year 1943 is as follows :—

Generalised tuberculosis	19141 lbs.	46.0%
Localised tuberculosis ..	5473 „	13.2%
Fever .. ..	3426 lbs.	8.2%
Distomatosis .. ..	1983 „	4.8%
Dropsy .. ..	1560 „	3.5%
Septicaemia .. ..	1277 „	3.1%
Abscess .. ..	1039 „	2.5%
Strongylosis .. ..	1000 „	2.4%
Mastitis .. ..	888 „	2.1%
Moribund .. ..	838 „	2.1%
Pneumonia .. ..	711 „	1.7%
Bruising (generalised)	550 „	1.3%
Bruising (localised) ..	546 „	1.3%
Damaged .. ..	462 „	1.1%
Pleurisy .. ..	431 „	1.1%
Angiomatosis .. ..	305 „	.7%
Putrefaction .. ..	296 „	.7%
Inflammation .. ..	293 „	.7%
Erysipelas .. ..	186 „	.4%
Cysts .. ..	143 „	.4%
Bacillary necrosis ..	143 „	.4%
Joint ill .. ..	126 „	.3%
Actinomycosis .. ..	121 „	.3%
Nephritis .. ..	114 „	.3%
Medicine taint .. ..	88 „	.2%
Pyemia .. ..	78 „	.2%
Gangrene .. ..	63 „	.2%
Rickets .. ..	54 „	.2%
Immaturity .. ..	49 „	.1%
Pericarditis .. ..	47 „	.1%
Caseous lymphadenitis	41 „	.1%
Uraemia .. ..	38 „	.1%
Fatty degeneration ..	32 „	.1%
Sturdy .. ..	22 „	.1%

The following figures give a comparison with previous years :—

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
Total number of animals slaughtered	6195	8251	9597	7973	8733
Total number of condemnations	469	476	404	656	1246
Total weight cond'd				16½ tons	18½ tons

The meat passed as fit for human consumption during 1943 represents (approximately) 930,000 rations for 18,000 persons for 12 months with a value of £55,000.



## SLAUGHTERMEN'S LICENCES :—

Number issued or renewed      ..      ..      ..      ..      19

## REGISTRATION OF PREMISES USED FOR PREPARATION OF FOOD :—

Owing to war conditions little progress has been made in this work. Arrangements are being made for the reconstruction of one bakehouse.

## FOODSTUFFS OTHER THAN MEAT CONDEMNED.

Corned Beef	..	..	..	..	..	622 lbs.
Pork Luncheon Meat	..	..	..	..	..	137 "
Chopped Pork	..	..	..	..	..	7 "
Chopped Ham	..	..	..	..	..	50 "
Dried Peas	..	..	..	..	..	224 "
Pork Sausage Meat	..	..	..	..	..	13 "
Victoria Plums	..	..	..	..	..	18 "
Beans	..	..	..	..	..	35 "
Apples	..	..	..	..	..	11 "
Condensed Milk	..	..	..	..	..	15 "
Pilchards	..	..	..	..	..	21 "
Sardines	..	..	..	..	..	2 "
Salmon	..	..	..	..	..	6 "
Soup	..	..	..	..	..	8 "
Yorkshire Relish	..	..	..	..	..	1 "
Jam..	..	..	..	..	..	21 "
Fish	..	..	..	..	..	126 "
Evaporated Milk	..	..	..	..	..	24 "
Bacon	..	..	..	..	..	298 "
Peanut Butter	..	..	..	..	..	1 "
Herrings	..	..	..	..	..	18 "
Potatoes	..	..	..	..	..	840 "
Sliced Carrots	..	..	..	..	..	10 "
Vegetables	..	..	..	..	..	9 "
Canned Peas	..	..	..	..	..	13 "
Parsnips	..	..	..	..	..	4 "
Corned Pork	..	..	..	..	..	4 "
Meat Veg. Dinner	..	..	..	..	..	1 "
Lunch Tongue	..	..	..	..	..	24 "
Biscuits	..	..	..	..	..	2 "
Horseraddish Cream	..	..	..	..	..	12 "
Slab Cake	..	..	..	..	..	34 "
Sausage	..	..	..	..	..	17 "
Beetroot	..	..	..	..	..	1 "
Steak	..	..	..	..	..	1 "
Sliced Lunch Meat	..	..	..	..	..	2 "
Toffee	..	..	..	..	..	3 "
Cheese	..	..	..	..	..	14 "
						2649 lbs.

Comparison with previous years :—

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
Weight condemned	12 lbs.	88 lbs.	240 lbs.	1124 lbs.	2649 lbs.

## SAMPLING OF FOODSTUFFS.

The West Riding County Council is the authority responsible under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the sampling of foodstuffs for quality, and we are indebted to the Sampling Officer for information as to the following samples obtained in Ripon during the year 1943 :—

Item.	No. of samples obtained.	Results.
Milk	19	2 samples deficient in fat. 1 vendor cautioned by the Clerk of the County Council, and 1 Vendor prosecuted. Case dismissed under P. of O. Act.
Ground Ginger	1	Genuine
Custard Powder	1	Adulterated. No action owing to description as "wartime quality."
Parsley, Egg and Thyme Stuffing	1	Genuine
Tea	1	"
Vinegar	1	"
Liquid Paraffin	1	"
Chest and Lung Mixture	1	"
Coffee	1	"
Mild Beer	1	"
Margarine	1	"
Egg Substitute Powder	1	"

## SECTION F.

## INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis) have been as follows :—

CIVILIAN CASES :—

Disease.	No. of Cases.	No. of deaths.
Scarlet Fever	28	—
Diphtheria	8	—
Pneumonia	6	3
Erysipelas	1	—
Measles	89	—
Totals	132	3

NON-CIVILIAN NOTIFICATIONS :—	Scarlet Fever	..	1
	Pneumonia	..	2

## TUBERCULOSIS.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F
Number of cases on Register (Jan.)	18	9	3	8
Notified during year	5	3	1	1
Removed from Register	11	8	1	5
Restored to Register	2	1	-	-
Cases on Register (Dec.)	14	5	3	4

The following deaths from Tuberculosis have occurred during the year :—

	M	F
Tuberculosis of respiratory system ..	4	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis .. ..	1	1
Total for year .. ..	8	

Deaths from tuberculosis during the past 5 years have been as follows :—

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	4	4	3	1	6
Other forms of tuberculosis	0	3	2	1	2
Totals	4	7	5	2	8

## DIPHTHERIA PROPHYLAXIS.

During the year, children have been given protection against diphtheria as follows :—

Children under 5 years of age	..	..	100
„ 5 years and under 15	..	..	89

Over 95% of school children and 50% children under 5 years of age have been immunized against diphtheria, and these high percentages are probably reflected in the comparative freedom from any serious outbreak of diphtheria in the City during the past five years.

Cases have been as follows :—

1939	..	..	0
1940	..	..	2 (1 death)
1941	..	..	11
1942	..	..	9
1943	..	..	12

The incidence rate for 1943 is 1.2 compared with 0.88 for England and Wales.

### VENEREAL DISEASES PROPAGANDA.

In conjunction with the Central Council for Health Education and the West Riding County Council, a film show and lecture was given at the Palladium Cinema on Sunday, the 4th April. There was a large and attentive audience although the film "Love on Leave" left something to be desired in emphasising the seriousness of venereal disease.

A series of talks was also given to Youth Organisations by Dr. Elsie G. Vincent, Organiser for the Central Council for Health Education. These were much appreciated.

### SCABIES.

Scabies is certainly more prevalent than in previous years, but very few adult cases have been notified.

The clinic is held at the First Aid Post, and cases during 1943 have been as follows :—

Men	..	..	..	1
Women	..	..	..	14
Children (under 14)	..	..	..	58
Total				73

as against 36 for the 5 months of 1942 that the clinic was open.

The treatment is by benzyl benzoate emulsion and soft soap, and has generally proved satisfactory. Valuable assistance in this work is given by the School Nurse (Nurse Watson), and the full-time staff of the First Aid Post.

## SECTION G.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### STORAGE OF PETROLEUM SPIRIT.

Number of premises licensed to store petroleum	29
Quantity covered by licences (galls.)	.. 40,890
Quantity of mixtures of petroleum (galls.)	.. 150
Number of inspections	.. .. 18

### LETTING OF CORPORATION HOUSES.

During 1943, the following dwellings became vacant and were re-let :—

Bungalows	..	3
2 bedroom type houses	..	2
3 " " "	..	3

In the case of two bungalows, single persons were transferred from larger Corporation houses which were then used for families inadequately housed.

### INSPECTION OF CORPORATION HOUSES.

During the year 70 Corporation houses were inspected with the following results :—

(a)	Very clean and well looked after	1
(b)	Satisfactory .. ..	53
(c)	Insufficiently clean .. ..	12
(d)	Dirty .. ..	2
(e)	Verminous (bugs) .. ..	2

Appropriate action was taken in the case of the unsatisfactory houses (c), (d) and (e) above.



It was evident from these inspections that a considerable amount of repairs are required immediately the men and materials are available. A large number of draining boards are in need of renewal and other repairs of a general character, e.g. plasterwork, window fittings, etc. Nearly all maintenance repairs on the housing estate has been in abeyance since war started, and it is estimated that some 70% of the houses are in need of a large or small amount of repair.

All the houses are in need of painting.

Further, it is evident that more frequent inspection and supervision of the Corporation houses is desirable. It must be remembered that the local authority must, of necessity, re-house a considerable proportion of the less satisfactory type of tenant, and while, in many cases, the granting of a new house has resulted in a higher standard of cleanliness and household science, in other cases little or no effort is made either to keep the house clean, or to take advantage of the benefits of modern houses at a subsidised rent.

Sometime in the near future, the Corporation ought to consider the appointment of a woman welfare officer whose duties would be confined to the housing estates. A person trained, on the Octavia Hill system of household management would be of considerable benefit both to the Corporation and certainly to many of the tenants.

#### CITY MORTUARY.

Admissions to the Mortuary have been as follows :—

Cases from Ripon City .. .. .	14
Cases from other areas .. .. .	7

#### ISSUE OF DISINFECTANT.

Disinfectant, which is issued free to City residents each Saturday morning, continues to be in popular demand. Approximately 2,600 tins of 1/3rd pint capacity have been issued.

#### BYELAWS AND REGULATIONS IN FORCE IN THE CITY.

(1) Cleansing of Footways and Pavements .. .. .	1907
(2) Prevention of Nuisances .. .. .	1907
(3) Removal of Refuse .. .. .	1907
(4) Good Rule and Government .. .. .	1908
(5) Common Lodging Houses .. .. .	1909
(6) Cemeteries .. .. .	1923
(7) Tents, Vans and Sheds .. .. .	1923
(8) Slaughterhouses .. .. .	1926
(9) Smoke Abatement .. .. .	1931
(10) Gypsy Encampments and Caravan Dwellers .. .. .	1933
(11) Fouling of Footways by Dogs .. .. .	1933
(12) Waterworks .. .. .	1935
(13) New Streets and Buildings .. .. .	1939
(14) Employment of Children .. .. .	1940



## INDEX.

					Page
A.	Area of City .. .. .	..	..	..	3
	Ambulance facilities .. .. .	..	..	..	6
B.	Births .. .. .	..	..	..	3
	Byelaws, etc. .. .. .	..	..	..	26
	Bugs, eradication of .. .. .	..	..	..	14
C.	Clinics, T.B., Welfare and V.D. .. .. .	..	..	..	7
	Clearance areas .. .. .	..	..	..	15
	Condemned houses, re-occupation of .. .. .	..	..	..	15
	Cowsheds .. .. .	..	..	..	19
	Common Lodging House .. .. .	..	..	..	14
	Corporation Houses, letting of .. .. .	..	..	..	25
	inspection of .. .. .	..	..	..	25
D.	Deaths, rate of, causes of, etc. .. .. .	..	..	..	4, 5
	Drainage and Sewerage .. .. .	..	..	..	10
	Diphtheria, Prophylaxis .. .. .	..	..	..	24
	Disinfectant, issue of .. .. .	..	..	..	26
F.	Foodstuffs other than meat .. .. .	..	..	..	22
	sampling of .. .. .	..	..	..	23
	Food Premises, registration of .. .. .	..	..	..	22
H.	Houses, number of inhabited .. .. .	..	..	..	3
	Housing defects, remedy of .. .. .	..	..	..	13
	Housing, Acts, action under .. .. .	..	..	..	15
	do Post War .. .. .	..	..	..	16
I.	Infantile Mortality .. .. .	..	..	..	3
	Infectious Diseases .. .. .	..	..	..	23
	do non-civilian .. .. .	..	..	..	24
	Inspections, sanitary .. .. .	..	..	..	12
L.	Laboratory facilities .. .. .	..	..	..	6
M.	Maternal Mortality .. .. .	..	..	..	3
	Marriages in City .. .. .	..	..	..	6
	Meat, inspection of and condemnations .. .. .	..	..	..	20, 21
	Mortuary .. .. .	..	..	..	26
	Milk, Samples of .. .. .	..	..	..	18
	special designations .. .. .	..	..	..	19
	production, future responsibility .. .. .	..	..	..	19
N.	Nursing facilities .. .. .	..	..	..	7
O.	Offensive trades .. .. .	..	..	..	15
	Overcrowding .. .. .	..	..	..	15
P.	Petroleum, storage of .. .. .	..	..	..	25
R.	Rateable value .. .. .	..	..	..	3
	Rate, product of ld. .. .. .	..	..	..	3
	Rainfall .. .. .	..	..	..	9
	Rivers and Streams .. .. .	..	..	..	10
	Refuse removal .. .. .	..	..	..	10
	Rat destruction .. .. .	..	..	..	14

**INDEX**—*continued.*

	Page
S. Salvage .. .. .	11
Swimming Bath, Spa .. .. .	14
Schools .. .. .	14
Slaughtering of Animals .. .. .	20
Slaughtermen, licensed .. .. .	22
Smoke abatement .. .. .	14
Scabies .. .. .	25
Shops .. .. .	13
Sanitary Conveniences .. .. .	10
Sanitary works carried out .. .. .	13
Staff of Public Health Department .. .. .	1
Statistics, vital .. .. .	3
Stillbirths .. .. .	3
T. Tuberculosis .. .. .	24
Tents, Vans and Sheds .. .. .	13
V. Vital Statistics .. .. .	3, 5
Venereal Diseases.. .. .	25
Vermin (bugs) .. .. .	14
W. Water samples .. .. .	7



